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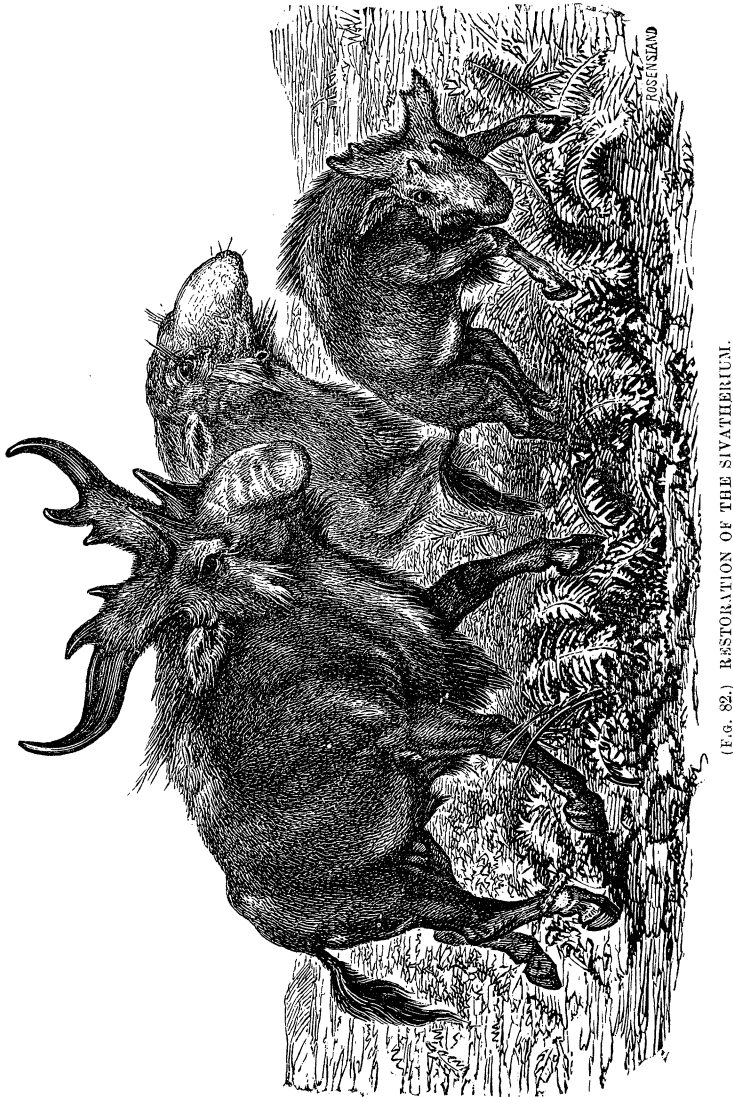
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stags and the Pachyderms. It is supposed to have had the bulk of an elephant and greater height." (Dana's Manual.)



(F.g. 82.) RESTORATION OF THE SIVATHERIUM.

ANTHROPOLOGY.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NEWS. — The *Journal* of the Anthropological Institute, for January, is very largely devoted to Polynesian subjects. The following papers are published in full: Notes on a Collection of Skulls from Mallicollo and Vanikoro, by Geo. Busk. Notes on the Nicobar Islands, by W. L. Distant; Signor S. M. D'Alberti's Expedi-

tion to New Guinea, by A. W. Franks; On the South Sea Islanders, by W. L. Rankin. Several papers are devoted to British archæology. M. Van der Horck contributes a paper on the Laplanders, and the Rev. W. Harper treats of The Tribes of British Guiana.

An elaborate, illustrated work on the archæology of Finland has lately been published in Helsingissä, by Johann Reinhold Aspelin. The title is *Suomalais Ugrilaisen Muinaistutkinnon Alkeita*.

Matériaux for January contains the usual amount of information concerning local explorations. In addition to this is a review by Montelius of the history and antiquities of Sweden, and of Pinart's Tumuli in Vancouver's Island.

Nature of February 15th contains a letter from Mr. Gerald S. Davies on the Obsidian Cutters of Melos. This is an interesting account of a series of obsidian cores and flakes from the Island of Melos, some having a "singular wavy pattern on the back ridge."

The French Anthropological Society has been authorized to open an international exhibition in the central palace of the Trocadero. M. Quatrefages has been appointed chairman of the commission.

We take great pleasure in welcoming to our fraternity of ethnological laborers Mr. Albert S. Gatschet, of Weimar. The following of his papers have come under our notice: Twelve Idioms spoken in the Southwest of North America, Weimar, 1876, 8vo, pp. 150; Indian Languages of the Pacific States and Territories, in the *Magazine of American History*, March, 1877; and Analytical Report of Eleven Idioms spoken in Southern California, Nevada, and on the Lower Colorado River, their Phonetic Elements, Grammatical Structure, and Mutual Affinities, in Lieut. Geo. M. Wheeler's Annual Report, 1876. In the same report will be found the following anthropological papers in addition to the one mentioned above: Report on the Operations of a Special Party for making Ethnological Researches in the Vicinity of Santa Barbara, Cal., with an Historical Account of the Region explored, by H. C. Yarrow, M. D.; Notes upon the Ethnology of Southern California and the Adjacent Regions, by Dr. O. Loew; and On the Physiological Effects of a very Hot Climate, by the same author. The amount of human remains, mortars, ollas, etc., found at one locality, described in Dr. Yarrow's paper, was so immense that they named it the Big Bonanza.

The American Geographical Society has recently published Major J. W. Powell's paper, entitled Outlines of the Philosophy of the North American Indians. The major divides the subject as follows: Introduction: Savagery as Ethnic Childhood; Cosmology: System of Worlds, Heavenly Bodies, Meteorological Phenomena, Geographical Phenomena—Remarkable Facts in Nature, Important Facts in Human Society; Theology: Beast Gods, Hero Gods, Daimon Gods, Firmament Gods, Tutelar Gods; Religion: Priestcraft, Prophets, Shamans, Witches, Ecstacism, Amuletism; Mythology.

In the *Western Review of Science and Industry* for February are the two following articles: The Missouri Mound Builders, by Judge E. P. West; and The Functions of the Uvula and the Prominence formed by the Azygos Uvulæ Muscles, by Thos. F. Rumbold, M. D. The last named is reproduced from the *St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal*.

Mr. A. R. Grote contributes to the *Popular Science Monthly* a paper on The Early Man of North America.

In *Nature*, February 8th, Mr. A. W. Howitt, of Bairnsdale, Gippsland Victoria, adds something to his former notes on the boomerang. We are informed by Mr. Holmes, of Hayden's Survey, that the Moquis use their boomerangs for killing rabbits. A party of young men are detailed each morning to go hunting. Each one carries a bunch of these weapons slung over his shoulder. They shy them with great force and precision, but, of course, have no idea of their returning. Here, then, is the primitive boomerang, one step lower than the Australian, excelling the ordinary club by its more rapid flight, and by its following more strictly a plane of revolution.

In *Academy*, for February 24th, and March 3d, 10th, and 17th, will be found letters from Messrs. Sweet, Ellis, and Phillimore upon Spelling Reform. This subject becomes a very important one to the ethnologist at this time, when great interest is manifest in the collection of Indian vocabularies. It is a conceded fact, we believe, that, until the American Philological Association produces its phonetic alphabet, we must endeavor to record our vocabularies in such form that they can be reproduced at any printing-office.

Frequent references are made in European journals to the fact that many chipped arrowheads have a spiral form, as if to give a rotary motion to the arrow in its flight. In a conversation with Mr. Frank Cushing, the assistant of Dr. Rau, at the National Museum, who is also an expert at making flaked and chipped implements from bottle glass, etc., I asked him why he so often gave his points a spiral twist. He replied, "Because I cannot help it. When I hold the butt end of the arrowhead against the ball of my thumb, I have a good bearing, and can take off long flakes; but when I reverse the object to chip the other side, I have a poor bearing, and can take off only small chips. The same is true of the opposite edge, only the long chips will come from alternate sides, giving the point the appearance of a twist." Mr. Cushing has made thousands of chipped implements, and agreed with me that the twist or spiral was a necessity over which the savage had no intelligent control. Subsequently this undesigned improvement may have led to the alternate chisel-edge of some of Dr. Rau's specimens at the Centennial Exhibition.

The anthropological map accompanying Reclus' *Nouvelle Géographie Universelle* was prepared by M. G. de Mortillet. The palæolithic localities of France marked amount to 396. The neolithic localities comprise 26 natural caves, 144 artificial caverns, and 2314 dolmens.